



## **MATHEMATICS FACULTY** **Calculator Policy**

Scientific calculators are necessary in the teaching and learning of mathematics. Calculators are valuable educational tools that allow students to reach a higher level of mathematical understanding, reasoning, appreciation and application. Research shows that calculators help students, who would otherwise be turned off by tedious computations and algorithms, develop number sense more quickly and readily. However, it is important that students maintain and develop their mental arithmetic skills, rather than rely on their calculators for every calculation.

At Bomaderry High School, it is compulsory for every student studying mathematics to own a scientific calculator. Despite the implementation of BYOD, all students are required to bring their own scientific calculator to every mathematics lesson. This is in accordance to the NSW Education Standards Authority requirement, which allows students to take with them only an approved scientific calculator, and not any other devices, to an examination. It is therefore important that students learn how to use their calculators effectively.

At Bomaderry High School, we currently subsidise the purchase price of the Abacus SXII MATRIXn scientific calculator for students in Years 7-10.

*We recommend the Casio fx-8200 AU* for students in Years 11 and 12 as they have recently been approved by the NSW Education Standards Authority for use in HSC examinations and they provide added functionality for students. The purchase price of these calculators has also been subsidised by the school in 2023 and 2024.

In 2025, we will begin the transition to the Casio fx-8200 AU calculator for all students.